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Table of Contents


 Oracle Database
 Administration, The
 Essential Reference

- ☐ Copyright
- ☐ Dedication
- ☐ Preface
- ☐ DBA Tasks
- ☐ DBA Reference
- ☐ Appendix: Resources for the DBA
- ☐ Colophon
- ☐ Index

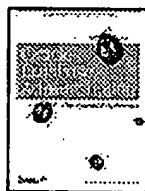
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Oracle Database Administration, The Essential Reference

By David C. Kreines, Brian Laskey

 Publisher: O'Reilly
 Pub Date: April 1999
 ISBN: 1-56592-516-5
 Pages: 577
 Slots: 1.0

[Table of Contents](#) | [Index](#) | [Examples](#) | [Errata](#)

Overview

A concise reference to the enormous store of information Oracle8 or Oracle9i, *Oracle Database Administration* covers DBA tasks like installation, networking, auditing, and query optimization. It's also a set of quick reference parameters, SQL statements, data dictionary tables, system privileges, role

Editorial Reviews

Book Description

Oracle database administration requires a vast amount of information and an ability to go from installation to tuning to network troubleshooting to overall daily administration. Or

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Ranked By Helpfulness

Average Customer Rating: ★★★★★ based on 23 reviews.

Oracle, The Essential Reference Review, 2002-08-10

Reviewer rating: ★★★★★

I've worked on Oracle before, but I certainly wished I had this handy

found sorely lacking was the installation chapter which glossed over options and made assumptions that did not always apply to real-world situations. However to be fair, an accurate coverage of Oracle installations and all the pitfalls would probably take several books.

The first part of the book serves its purpose in getting anyone with some DBA knowledge up and running on Oracle. Practice is vital to understanding the concepts explained in this section. I highly recommend executing the queries and peeking into the INIT.ORA files when necessary or else most of the concepts will escape you.

The second part of the book consists of DBA Reference chapters. Particularly valuable is the SQL syntax and Oracle Data Dictionary chapters. Again, very concise and does a good job of explaining the subject without being confusing.

All in all, a useful book to have around, especially for those supporting older Oracle installations. Relies heavily on other resources, although it does help in navigating the Oracle course.

----- ...
An excellent reference book!, 2001-02-14

Reviewer rating: ★★★★★

This is an excellent reference book. I am an experienced Oracle DBA and I use it as a reference. The chapters are well organized and to the point. David Kreines and Brian Laskey have done an excellent job.

How can 130 pages for 7 chapters clearly explain DBA's work?!, 2000-11-22

Reviewer rating: ★★★★★

Can't understand why someone gives it 5*, ... worse than handbook and document came.

I have this book at my hand, it used only 130 pages (p1-p130) to cover all OCP test core topics. It is unbelievable....

A very useful reference book. Keep it to hand !, 2000-06-23

Reviewer rating: ★★★★★

This book serves its purpose very well. As the title says, it is an essential reference, and it is for.

As some other reviewers point out, there is a lot of copy-and-paste work in it. But I think it is worth it.

In fact, very often it is much practical than navigating the bulk of on-line books, when you have a browser to load, search for a word or topic, or even when there's no computer at hand. It is around in my bag when necessary.

I especially would like to emphasize the coverage of SQL commands, init.ora parameters and utilities.

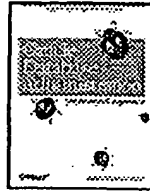
Although I agree there are some inconsistent topics in this book and some mistakes as some reviewers who complain about it either expected something very different or did not understand the book.

Sometimes useful companion, 2000-04-03

Reviewer rating: ★★★★★

I really didn't like this book in the beginning. Why? Most of the time I'm using an on-line reference and original Oracle documentation set for studying material larger than a few pages. You remember Oracle Book ? ;-) this kind of reference guide would be a rescue for any DBA. The organization of the book is quite good, index is excellent and some chapters are more useful than others.

the subject. When I'm not working on the site where I can easily reach on-line documents then this book goes with me. One drawback at the time of writing this review is that this is Oracle8i so you should at least wait for the second edition.



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By David C. Kreines, Brian Laskey

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Book: Oracle Database Administration, The Essential Reference

Section: Part II: DBA Reference

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Chapter 14. The Oracle Data Dictionary

The Oracle data dictionary is a collection of tables and related views that enable you to see the inner workings and structure of the Oracle database. By querying these tables and views, you can obtain information about every object and every user of the database. For example, you can determine the amount of I/O to each datafile, the values of the *INIT.ORA* parameters, and much more. All of the Oracle monitoring tools look at the information available in the data dictionary and present it in an easy-to-use format.

Traditionally, the data dictionary has consisted of a series of views owned by SYS. These views, known as *static data dictionary views*, present information contained in tables that are updated when Oracle processes a DDL statement. The SYS tables and views, as well as a set of public synonyms for the views, are all created by the *catalog.sql* script. In addition, the installation of some Oracle features creates tables and views in the SYSTEM schema. In general, tables and views owned by SYSTEM exist to support functionality provided by PL/SQL stored procedures rather than fundamental Oracle functionality.

An additional set of views is composed of the *dynamic performance data dictionary views*, commonly referred to as the *V\$ views* (or, mistakenly, as the *V\$ tables*). These *V\$* views are based on a set of internal memory structures maintained by Oracle as virtual tables, which all begin with an "X\$" prefix. Just as the static data dictionary views provide information about the database, the *V\$* views and the underlying *X\$* tables provide information about the instance.

Table 14.1 distinguishes between the types of information you will find in the static data dictionary views and in the dynamic performance data dictionary views.

Table 14.1. Basic Data Dictionary Divisions

If You Need to Find Information About...	Use These Data Dictionary Views
Database objects	Static data dictionary views
Instance objects	Dynamic performance data dictionary views
Database data files	Static data dictionary views
Archive log files	Dynamic performance data dictionary views
Users allowed to access the database	Static data dictionary views
Users currently connected to the database	Dynamic performance data dictionary views

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Section Title	Book Title
1. Data Dictionary	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreines
2. The Oracle Data Dictionary	e-Commerce Applications Using Oracle8i and Java from Scratch
3. Lab 13.1 The Oracle Data Dictionary Views	Oracle® SQL by Example, Third Edition By Alice Rischert
4. Static Data Dictionary Views	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreines
5. Oracle's Data Dictionary Views	Oracle SQL*Plus: The Definitive Guide, 2nd Edition By Jonathan Gennick
6. Common Views and Their Uses	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
7. Dynamic Data Dictionary Views	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreines
8. How the Data Dictionary Is Used	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
9. Accessing Data Dictionary and Dynamic Performance Views	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
10. The Static Data Dictionary Views	Oracle® SQL by Example, Third Edition By Alice Rischert

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Book: Oracle in a Nutshell

Section: Part I: Foundations

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Chapter 6. Data Dictionary

The Oracle data dictionary is a collection of tables and related views that enable you to see the inner workings and structure of the Oracle database. By querying these views, you can obtain information about every object and every user of the database. All of the Oracle monitoring tools look at the information available in the data dictionary and present it in an easy-to-use format.

Traditionally, the data dictionary has consisted of a series of views owned by the SYS user. These views, known as *static data dictionary views*, present information contained in tables that are updated when Oracle processes a DDL statement. The SYS tables and views, as well as a set of public synonyms for the views, are all created by the *catalog.sql* script. In addition, the installation of some Oracle features creates tables and views in the SYSTEM schema. In general, tables and views owned by SYSTEM exist to support functionality provided by PL/SQL stored procedures (described in Chapter 9) rather than fundamental Oracle functionality.

A second set of views is known as the *dynamic performance data dictionary views*, commonly referred to as the *V\$ views*. These V\$ views are based on a set of internal memory structures maintained by Oracle as virtual tables, which all begin with an "X\$" prefix. Just as the static data dictionary views provide information about the database, the V\$ views and underlying X\$ tables provide information about the active instance.

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1. The Oracle Data Dictionary	Oracle Database Administration, The Essential Reference By David C. Kreines, Brian Laskey
2. The Oracle Data Dictionary	e-Commerce Applications Using Oracle8i and Java from Scratch
3. Lab 13.1 The Oracle Data Dictionary Views	Oracle® SQL by Example, Third Edition By Alice Rischert

4. Oracle's Data Dictionary Views

Oracle SQL*Plus: The Definitive Guide, 2nd Edition
By Jonathan Gennick

5. Common Views and Their Uses

Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031)

By April Wells

6. How the Data Dictionary Is Used

Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031)

By April Wells

7. Accessing Data Dictionary and Dynamic Performance Views

Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031)

By April Wells

8. Static Data Dictionary Views

Oracle Database Administration, The Essential Reference

By David C. Kreines, Brian Leskey

9. Describing the Data Dictionary Views in an Oracle Database

SQL Cookbook

By Anthony Molinaro

10. Data Dictionary Content and Usage

Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031)

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Section: Part I: DBA Tasks

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Chapter 1. Introduction

Welcome to the world of Oracle database administration! This chapter provides an overview of Oracle database administration, and supplies some basic information required to understand the structure and characteristics of the Oracle database.

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1. Oracle System Files	Oracle Security By William Heney, Marlene Theriault
2. Using Extra-Cost Options	Oracle Security By William Heney, Marlene Theriault
3. Configuring and Using the Oracle Applications	Special Edition Using Oracle® 11i By BOSS Corporation
4. Loosely Coupled Federation	Oracle Distributed Systems By Charles Dye
5. The Oracle Security Model	Oracle Security By William Heney, Marlene Theriault
6. Introduction to Distributed Systems	Oracle Distributed Systems By Charles Dye
7. Oracle Database Objects	Oracle Security By William Heney, Marlene Theriault
8. The Instance and the Database: Starting an Oracle Database	Oracle Security By William Heney, Marlene Theriault
9. Implementing Security	Oracle Security By William Heney, Marlene Theriault
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By William Heney, Marlene Theriault



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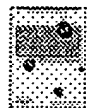
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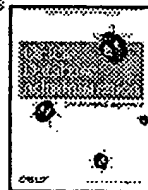


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[Table of Contents](#) | [Index](#) | [Examples](#) | [Errata](#) | [Additional Reading](#)

Copyright

Dedication

Preface

DBA Tasks

Introduction

**Oracle Database
Administration**

Oracle Architecture

Software Options

Configuration
Planning

Installation

Maximizing Oracle
Performance

Preventing Data Loss

Oracle Networking

Security and Monitoring

Auditing

Query Optimization

Oracle Tools

DBA Reference

Appendix: Resources for the
DBA

Colophon

Index

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Applied Sciences

1.1. Oracle Database Administration

If one hundred Oracle database administrators were asked to define what a would probably result in one hundred different descriptions. Nonetheless, t degree of commonality among these descriptions, and taken as a whole the a fairly accurate job description for an Oracle DBA.

When Educational Testing Service (ETS) set out to develop a certification DBAs a few years ago, the company's first step was to perform a *job analy.* way of evaluating and describing a job. The process ETS followed include:

1. A group of experts was asked to assemble a laundry list of the tasks, required of a DBA. A survey instrument was developed that listed th rating scale for the importance of each item.
2. The survey was administered to a large number of Oracle DBAs aro
3. The survey results were tabulated, yielding an average importance ra and ability. Those falling below a predetermined cutoff level were el

The result was a detailed description of the tasks performed by a DBA, and knowledge and abilities required to perform those tasks. This DBA job ana blueprint for the Certified Oracle Database Administrator examination.

1.1.1. A DBA Job Description

Here is a summary of the DBA job description that resulted from the ETS : following elements with "An Oracle DBA must be able to...."

- Artificial Intelligence
- Business
- Certification
- Computer Science
- Databases
- Desktop Applications
- Desktop Publishing
- E-Business
- E-Commerce
- Enterprise Computing
- Graphics
- Hardware
- Human-Computer Interaction
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Oracle architecture and options

- Demonstrate an understanding of the memory structures and parameters of an Oracle instance
- Demonstrate an understanding of the logical and physical structures of an Oracle database
- Demonstrate an understanding of PL/SQL constructs (triggers, procedures) and their processing
- Demonstrate an understanding of distributed architecture and replication
- Demonstrate an understanding of locking mechanisms

Security

- Create, alter, and drop database users
- Monitor and audit database access
- Develop and implement a strategy for managing security (role-based access control)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the implications of distributed security model

Data administration

- Manage integrity constraints
- Implement the physical database from the logical design
- Evaluate the implications of using stored procedures and constraints in business rules

Backup and recovery

- Understand backup options
- Develop backup and recovery strategies
- Manage the implementation of backup procedures

- Recover a database

Software maintenance and operation

- Install and upgrade Oracle and supporting products
- Configure the Oracle instance using the initialization parameters
- Configure and manage SQL*Net
- Distinguish among startup and shutdown options
- Create a database
- Demonstrate an understanding of the capabilities of underlying operating systems and how they relate to the Oracle database

Resource management

- Create and manage indexes
- Evaluate the use of clusters and hash clusters
- Allocate and manage physical storage structures (e.g., datafiles, redo log files)
- Allocate and manage logical storage structures (e.g., tablespaces)
- Control system resource usage by defining proper profiles
- Perform capacity planning

Tuning and troubleshooting

- Diagnose and resolve locking conflicts
- Use data dictionary tables and views
- Monitor the instance
- Collect and analyze relevant database performance information
- Identify and implement appropriate solutions for database performance problems

- Use vendor support services when necessary
- Solve SQL*Net problems

In short, the DBA is responsible for installing the Oracle database, keeping it running, maintaining its performance, and attending to the day-to-day administrative needs of the database.

1.1.2. The DBA and This Book

The authors of this book were members of the expert panel assembled by Ed Stonebraker heavily on the DBA job analysis when we developed our content outline.

1.1.2.1. The tasks DBAs do

We recognized that the job of a DBA is composed of a number of major tasks: installation, configuration, backup and recovery, networking, and much more. These tasks are organized around these tasks. In fact, the chapters in Part I are presented in an order similar to the order in which a DBA will be likely to perform each task; thus, installation (Chapter 2) comes before configuration (Chapter 3), which comes before backup and recovery (Chapter 4). In each chapter, we try to present the basic information that a working DBA needs to know about the tasks associated with that chapter.

1.1.2.2. The information DBAs need

No matter how experienced an Oracle DBA is, there is a huge amount of information that cannot be committed to memory, but must be looked up. Examples include Oracle architecture, configuration parameters, the syntax of a particular SQL statement, and options for an Oracle utility. Part II of this book organizes this vast array of information into relevant chapters that are designed to make it easy for the DBA to quickly find the information for the task he or she is working on.

An experienced DBA knows that a well-managed Oracle database doesn't just happen—it takes a lot of planning—lots of planning. In the remainder of this chapter, we'll provide a detailed look at Oracle. We will introduce the Oracle architecture and discuss some of the Oracle software. Finally, we'll provide you with many questions, and let you implement your database based on your answers.

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Section Title	Book
1. Installing Oracle Securely	Oracle Security By William Henney, Marlene Theriault
2. Managing Oracle	Oracle Essentials: Oracle 10g By Rick Greenwald, Robert Stacko
3. The Oracle Security Model	Oracle Security By William Henney, Marlene Theriault
4. Major Parts of the Installation	Guerrilla Oracle®: The Su By Richard J. Sturges
5. Use What's Already There	Oracle® DBA Automation By Charlie Russell, Robert Cording
6. The Instance and the Database: Starting an Oracle Database	Oracle Security By William Henney, Marlene Theriault
7. The DBA Toolkit and Security	Oracle Security By William Henney, Marlene Theriault
8. A Look Inside Oracle's Data Dictionary	Sams Teach Yourself SQL By Ryan K. Stephens, Ronald R. ...
9. Using Extra-Cost Options	Oracle Security By William Henney, Marlene Theriault
10. Books for Oracle database administration and tuning	Database Performance Tuning By Budi Darmawan, Gary Greenawald, Soares Monteiro, Kelman M. Snel

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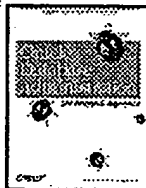
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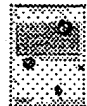
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[Table of Contents](#) | [Index](#) | [Examples](#) | [Errata](#) | [Additional Reading](#)

Chapter 2. Installation

It probably goes without saying, but Oracle installation is a prerequisite to administration topics mentioned in this book. Installation is probably one of the tasks a DBA will perform.

Oracle runs on a wide variety of hardware platforms, from personal computers to mainframes, and there is a corresponding variety of installation methodologies. This chapter provides an overview of the Oracle installation process and the tools provided by Oracle for installation. We'll give you the critical information you need to complete an installation that will function now and be maintainable in the future. However, this chapter is appropriate for *Oracle Installation and User's Guide* for your platform. Although we begin every installation with a careful review of the appropriate documentation and we urge you to do the same.

To successfully complete an Oracle installation, you must perform the following tasks:

- Make pre-installation decisions.
- Obtain appropriate media.
- Install the Oracle software.
- Create a database.
- Configure the database.

We'll discuss each of these tasks in this chapter. See Figure 2.1 for an outline of the tasks.

- Copyright
- Dedication
- Preface
- DBA Tasks
 - Introduction
- Installation**
 - Media Selection
 - The Oracle Installer
 - Installable Components
 - Dependencies
 - Pre-Installation Checklist
 - Critical Decisions
 - Post-Installation Tasks
- Maximizing Oracle Performance
- Preventing Data Loss
- Oracle Networking
- Security and Monitoring
- Auditing
- Query Optimization
- Oracle Tools
- DBA Reference
- Appendix: Resources for the DBA
- Colophon
- Index

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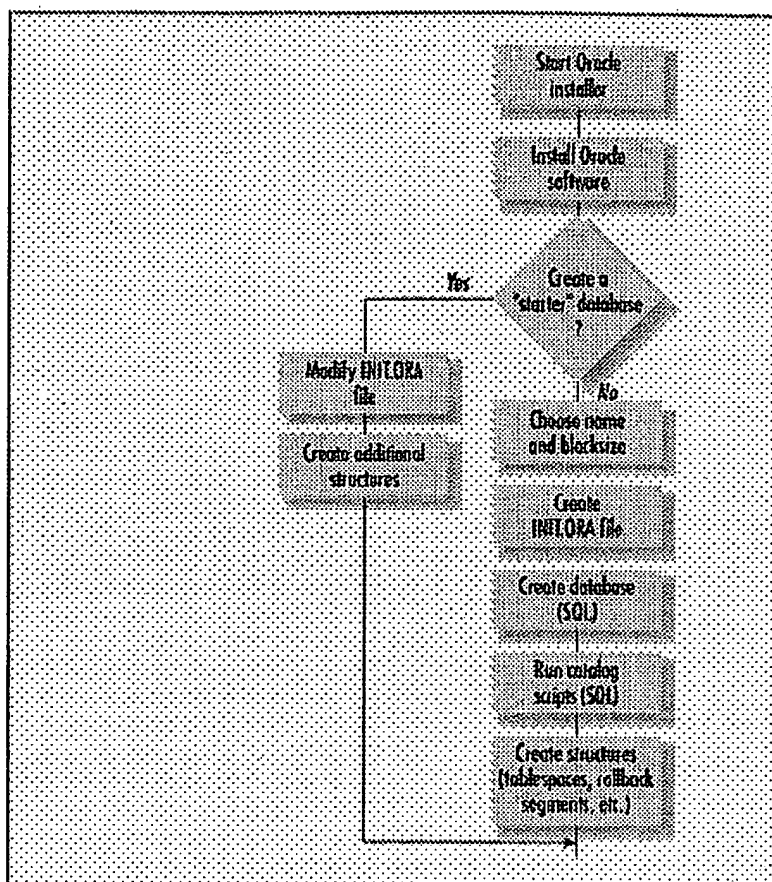
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process.

Figure 2.1. The Oracle installation process



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Section Title

1. Installing 10g on UNIX/Linux

Book

Oracle® Database 10g In:
By Arun Kumar R., John Kanagarc

2. Installing 10g on Windows

Oracle® Database 10g In:
By Arun Kumar R., John Kanagala

3. Oracle Universal Installer

Oracle® DBA Automation
By Charlie Russell, Robert Cording

4. Installation Decisions

Oracle® Database 10g In:
By Arun Kumar R., John Kanagala

5. Companion CD Installation and Patches (All Platforms)

Oracle® Database 10g In:
By Arun Kumar R., John Kanagala

6. Installing and Upgrading SQL Server

Microsoft® SQL Server™
Edition
By Ray Rankins, Paul Bertucci, Pat

7. Installing Oracle8i

Migrating to Oracle8i
By David Austin, Meghraj Thakkar,

8. What You Need to Get Started with PL/SQL

Learning Oracle PL/SQL
By Bill Pribyl

9. Prerequisites

Oracle® Database 10g In:
By Arun Kumar R., John Kanagala

10. Verifying Installation

Microsoft® SQL Server™
Edition
By Ray Rankins, Paul Bertucci, Pat

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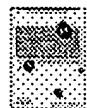
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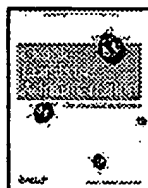
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Oracle Database Administration, The Essential Reference

By David C. Krelmes, Brian Laskey

Publisher: **O'Reilly**

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[Table of Contents](#) | [Index](#) | [Examples](#) | [Errata](#)

▼ Copyright

▼ Dedication

▼ Preface

▼ DBA Tasks

▼ DBA Reference

▼ Appendix: Resources for the DBA

▼ Colophon

▼ Index

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▼ Business

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▼ Databases

▼ Desktop Applications

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▼ Graphics

▼ Hardware

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






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Chapter 11. The Oracle Database

In Chapter 10, we introduced the Oracle instance, and explained that the terms *instance* and *database* are often used interchangeably. This chapter provides information about the physical structures that make up an Oracle database, which is accessed by means of the Oracle instance.

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1. Oracle Architecture Components	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
2. Oracle Instances and Databases	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Krelmes
3. Oracle8i Architecture	e-Commerce Applications Using Oracle8i and Java from Scratch
4. Instances and Databases	Oracle Essentials: Oracle Database 10g, 3rd Edition By Rick Greenwald, Robert Stackowiak, Jonathan Stern
5. The Instance and the Database: Starting an Oracle Database	Oracle Security By William Henoy, Marlene Theriault
6. Data Structures	Oracle Essentials: Oracle Database 10g, 3rd Edition By Rick Greenwald, Robert Stackowiak, Jonathan Stern
7. Configuring and Using the Oracle Applications	Special Edition Using Oracle® 11i By SOSS Corporation
8. Using Extra-Cost Options	Oracle Security By William Henoy, Marlene Theriault
9. Oracle System Files	Oracle Security

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Chapter 14. The Oracle Data Dictionary

The Oracle data dictionary is a collection of tables and related views that enable you to see the inner workings and structure of the Oracle database. By querying these tables and views, you can obtain information about every object and every user of the database. For example, you can determine the amount of I/O to each datafile, the values of the *INIT.ORA* parameters, and much more. All of the Oracle monitoring tools look at the information available in the data dictionary and present it in an easy-to-use format.

Traditionally, the data dictionary has consisted of a series of views owned by SYS. These views, known as *static data dictionary views*, present information contained in tables that are updated when Oracle processes a DDL statement. The SYS tables and views, as well as a set of public synonyms for the views, are all created by the *catalog.sql* script. In addition, the installation of some Oracle features creates tables and views in the SYSTEM schema. In general, tables and views owned by SYSTEM exist to support functionality provided by PL/SQL stored procedures rather than fundamental Oracle functionality.

An additional set of views is composed of the *dynamic performance data dictionary views*, commonly referred to as the *V\$ views* (or, mistakenly, as the *V\$ tables*). These *V\$ views* are based on a set of internal memory structures maintained by Oracle as virtual tables, which all begin with an "X\$" prefix. Just as the static data dictionary views provide information about the database, the *V\$ views* and the underlying *X\$ tables* provide information about the instance.

Table 14.1 distinguishes between the types of information you will find in the static data dictionary views and in the dynamic performance data dictionary views.

Table 14.1. Basic Data Dictionary Divisions

If You Need to Find Information About...	Use These Data Dictionary Views
Database objects	Static data dictionary views
Instance objects	Dynamic performance data dictionary views
Database data files	Static data dictionary views
Archive log files	Dynamic performance data dictionary views
Users allowed to access the database	Static data dictionary views
Users currently connected to the database	Dynamic performance data dictionary views

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Section Title	Book Title
1. Data Dictionary	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreinos
2. The Oracle Data Dictionary	e-Commerce Applications Using Oracle8i and Java from Scratch
3. Lab 13.1 The Oracle Data Dictionary Views	Oracle® SQL by Example, Third Edition By Alice Rischert
4. Static Data Dictionary Views	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreinos
5. Oracle's Data Dictionary Views	Oracle SQL*Plus: The Definitive Guide, 2nd Edition By Jonathan Gennick
6. Common Views and Their Uses	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
7. Dynamic Data Dictionary Views	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreinos
8. How the Data Dictionary Is Used	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
9. Accessing Data Dictionary and Dynamic Performance Views	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
10. The Static Data Dictionary Views	Oracle® SQL by Example, Third Edition. By Alice Rischert

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Chapter 15. System Privileges and Initial Roles

Privileges in Oracle are divided into two classes: system and object. *System privileges* define what actions you are allowed to take within the database. *Object privileges* define what you are allowed to do to a specific object, such as a table, a view, or a sequence. This chapter discusses the system privileges available in Oracle8. Object privileges are described in Chapter 6.

In addition, Oracle recognizes certain *roles* that behave in a manner similar to system privileges, and this chapter discusses the six initial, or default, roles created with each database and the nine roles created by optional scripts during the standard database creation process.

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Section Title	Book Title
1. Privileges	Oracle in a Nutshell By Rick Greenwald, David C. Kreines
2. Managing Privileges	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
3. What Are Privileges?	Sams Teach Yourself SQL® in 24 Hours, Third Edition By Ronald R. Plow, Ryan K. Stephens
4. Privileges	Oracle Security By William Henney, Marlene Theriault
5. What Are Privileges?	Sams Teach Yourself SQL in 24 Hours, Second Edition By Ronald R. Plow, Ryan K. Stephens
6. System Privileges	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells
7. Object Privileges	Oracle 9i Fundamentals I Exam Cram™ 2 (Exam 1Z0-031) By April Wells

8. Grant

Oracle® DBA SQL Quick Reference
By Charlie Russel, Robert Cordingley

9. Privilege Levels

MySQL® Tutorial
By Luke Welling, Laura Thomson

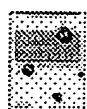
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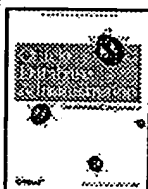
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▼ Table of Contents



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[Table of Contents](#) | [Index](#) | [Examples](#) | [Errata](#) | [Additional Reading](#)

- ☐ Copyright
- ☐ Dedication
- ☐ Preface
- ☐ DBA Tasks
- ☐ DBA Reference
 - ☐ The Oracle Instance
 - ☐ The Oracle Database
 - ☐ Initialization Parameters
 - ☐ SQL Statements for the DBA
 - ☐ The Oracle Data Dictionary
 - ☒ **System Privileges and Initial Roles**
 - ☐ Actions, Privileges, and Roles
 - ☐ System Privileges
 - ☐ Initial Roles
 - ☐ Initial Users
 - ☐ Tools and Utilities
- ☐ Appendix: Resources for the DBA
- ☐ Colophon
- ☐ Index

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Chapter 15. System Privileges and Roles

Privileges in Oracle are divided into two classes: system and object. *System* actions you are allowed to take within the database. *Object privileges* define to do to a specific object, such as a table, a view, or a sequence. This chapter describes privileges available in Oracle8. Object privileges are described in Chapter





















In addition, Oracle recognizes certain *roles* that behave in a manner similar and this chapter discusses the six initial, or default, roles created with each roles created by optional scripts during the standard database creation process.

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- 4. Privileges
- 5. What Are Privileges?
- 6. System Privileges
- 7. Object Privileges
- 8. Grant
- 9. Privilege Levels

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